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Atty Dkt: 024009-0276266

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: **Richard A. Dias**

App. Ser. No.: **09/822,898**

Group Art Unit: 1724

Filed: March 30, 2001

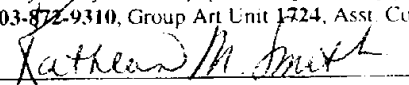
Examiner: Popovics, Robert J.

Title: **Sloped Screen Separator that Removes Solids from a Manure Slurry**

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via facsimile to ~~703-872-9310~~, Group Art Unit ~~1724~~, Asst. Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. on October 23, 2002.

By

  
Kathleen M. Smith

\* \* \* \* \*

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
BOX: Amendment  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is a response to the Office Action mailed on September 23, 2002.

First, the Office Action requires an election of one of Groups I, II and III defined therein. Applicant elects Group III, without traverse, which includes claims 43-45 and 58 drawn to a **Method for Removing Solids from a Manure Slurry**. Further, Applicant requests cancellation without prejudice of claims 1-42 and 55-57 drawn to the inventions of Group I and Group II.

Finally, the Office Action requires an election of species between allegedly patentably distinct species of the **Separator** invention of Group I and of the **Manure Management System** invention of Group II. Because Applicant elects Group III by this Response and cancels those claims drawn to the **Separator** and **Manure Management System** inventions, further election of species in this Response is moot.

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REMARKS

Applicant respectfully request reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendments. By this amendment, claims 1-42 and 55-57 have been canceled. Following entry of the above amendments, claims 43-45 and 58 will be pending in the application.

**CHARGE STATEMENT:** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge fees that may be required relative to this application, or credit any overpayment, to our Account No. 03-3975 and Order No. 024009-0276266.

Respectfully submitted,  
Intellectual Property Group of  
PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

By: 

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Total Pages: - 4 -  
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To: **Examiner R. Popovics**  
**Art Unit 1724**Company: **U.S. Patent & Trademark Office**

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703-872-9310

**Serial No. 09/822,898**  
**Filed March 30, 2001**  
**Dias**

**ATTACHMENTS:**

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Thank you.

- 1. Response to Office Action (Restriction Requirement)**
- 2. SB-122 Change of Correspondence Address**

If you have not properly received this fax, please call. Thank you

Operator: Kathleen Smith 650-233-4575